

x-2 2 P.7.C.

TRANSCRIPT OF BROADCAST

By
Fulton Lewis, Jr.,Station WGMS at 7-7:15 P.M.
3 February 1958

Tonight, Ladies and Gentlemen, an old story replaces momentarily the new one about Crusade for Freedom and Radio Free Europe, an old friend of yours on which there finally is some developments--the Fund for the Republic, the broadcast series which we published in the form of the red book two and half years ago.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities staff has finally prepared a report which is to be submitted to the membership in the near future, giving an exhaustive analysis of the operations of the fund, with samples of the projects it has undertaken. And the report makes a flat recommendation that the government rescind the tax exempt status that the fund has enjoyed to date, which would mean that all remaining money of the original \$15 million which was given to it by the Ford Foundation, would revert to the Ford Foundation. About \$6 million is left. In short, the Fund for the Republic would be out of business which is what should have happened a long, long time ago.

The report states what I've told you repeatedly over this microphone, that the recommendations of a team of income tax agents who studied the fund operations, after months of study said that the fund had violated the provisions of its tax exemption and found that the fund was engaged in propaganda activities as I charged all the way through. These recommendations, however, have been gathering dust in the files of the Internal Revenue Division, while Mr. Robert Maynard Hutchins and Mr. W. H. King Ferry, continue to draw their lush incomes, and carry on their anti, anti-Communist propaganda activities.

The report retraces and corroborates virtually every story I have presented to you about the fund and its operations. It is a voluminous report, the work of one of the crack committee investigators Don Appell and a very studious document from the standpoint of the evidence that it presents. In the case of each and every project, it cites chapter and verse to support the charges which I made at the time that the people who were manning the Fund for the Republic were not engaging in education as they claimed, but were indulging rather in political propaganda and the promotion of the anti, anti-Communist ideas of left-wing thinkers and doing so on public funds.

One report out of New York today, said that the officials of the fund said that they have not been aware that they were under investigation, which you can file away in the bird department, because the Internal Revenue investigation has been going on for two years and the Un-American Activities Committee investigators have been crawling through the fund records for almost that long. The fact is, as late as a year ago, they were outraged, and had some caustic remarks to make about the committee and its investigations, because I published some material from the files which the committee investigators had subpoenaed from them. Furthermore, they were fully aware that the filing of this report was imminent because they had been doing their usual string-pulling with members of the Un-American Activities Committee and other prominent figures in Congress, in the hope of preventing any final disaster in the form of acceptance of the report by the committee as a whole.

They've been laughing with Speaker Sam Rayburn at a dinner at which they gave some awards, to which he was invited, the whole purpose of the affair being to butter him up along with other figures who might help their (garble). I've not as yet taken a poll of the committee membership, and there has not been time to do so, but a casual glance over the membership, suggests that they are going to have trouble stopping this one, and this is the big one as far as the fund is concerned. They've played their string-pulling games with the influential friends and their big names for two-and half-years now. They won a lot of skirmishes, a lot of little battles, they spread a lot of self-glorifying publicity material on the record to try to get the public off their shoulders. But this is the battle that counts, because this is the battle that finally decides the war and this is the one they have lost. The Fund for the Republic is through.

Thinking back to that first day when I went to their offices in New York City in August 1955, met with Mr. W. E. King Ferry, who sat there with his feet on his desk, his shoe soles staring me in the face. It is a strange analogy to the events that have been taking place in the last few months in the case of Radio Free Europe and its affiliated operations. If King Ferry had chosen on that day to go about correcting the things that were wrong with his operation, ((garble)) the proper reforms, getting rid of the playboys and the payroll sitters, and the anti, anti-Communists who were crawling through the woodwork, the trail would have long since closed happily and this report today would never have been made. The Ford Motor Company would

have never lost the business it did lose, if the executives of that organization to whom I went in advance of ever breaking the story at all had just taken the trouble to check into what I had told them, and find out the truth instead of accepting the self-justifying statements of the people I was accusing.

So it is, I'm afraid, with the Radio Free Europe and the Crusade for Freedom and I find some irony in the fact, as the old story comes to its end, the new story is just beginning to unfold in the same pattern along the same lines as the old with the same mistakes. After all King Ferry and General Crittenberger are not too different, except the general is an army officer and therefore is a little harder to get to face the facts. He likes to order that it is not so.